

MEMORANDUM**State of Alaska**

TO: ☐ Director,
Division of Sports Fish
ADF&G
Juneau

DATE : September 22, 1964

FROM: Rupert E. Andrews,
Sport Fish Biologist
ADF&G
Sitka

SUBJECT: Goulding Lake Survey

Through the assistance of the U. S. Forest Service, Tongass National Forest, a sport fishery survey was carried out September 2, 3, and 4, 1964, on the Goulding Lakes chain, Chichagof Island.

The U. S. Forest Service expressed an interest in this series of lakes due to contemplated construction plans for a recreational cabin to service the area. The lakes lie in an area of excellent deer hunting but information relative to the sport fishing potential was lacking.

The Goulding Lakes chain is comprised of four lakes that have an accumulated total surface acreage of 2165 acres. A 40 foot falls exists directly below the outlet of the lower or #1 lake that is a permanent block to anadromous fish.

The entire series of lakes drain directly to Goulding Harbor via a one mile stream.

Background history concerning the initial plantings of fish is quite fragmentary but it is presumed by many people in the Sitka area that the primary planting of fish took place perhaps two or more decades ago. The source of these planted fish is not known either but it is supposed that they came from the outlet stream of the Goulding Lakes that has indigenous sea-run cutthroat and dolly varden populations.

All four lakes were test netted with experimental type gill nets of graduated mesh to establish the presence, size, species and age composition of the fish population. Hook and line sampling was performed on the lower lake in addition.

The gill nets were allowed to fish for a total of 138 hours. Cutthroat trout and dolly varden char were found in all four lakes. A total of 81 cutthroat and 12 dolly varden were obtained by gill netting. Length range for the cutthroat trout was 18.0 cm. to 35.0 cm. with an average length of 27.0 cm.